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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/019,992 | 05/06/2002 | Marc Saelen | 10541-930 | 9884 |
| 29074 | 7590 | 11/08/2005 | | |
| VISTEON | | | EXAMINER | |
| C/O BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE | | | PETERSON, KENNETH E | |
| PO BOX 10395 | | | | |
| CHICAGO, IL 60610 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 3724 | |

DATE MAILED: 11/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/019,992 | SAELEN ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Kenneth E. Peterson | 3724 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 19-30 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 19-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. Applicant's amendment to the claims, received 26 Sep 05, cancelled all of the elected apparatus claims and added all new method claims. Applicant obviously wishes to shift his election from the apparatus to the method. This shift will be permitted since it is after filing of an RCE, which effectively restarts prosecution.

2. Claims 23 and 25-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The last four lines of claims 23 and 29 make no sense. It discusses how parts of the support contour overlap other parts of the support contour. Does this recitation have any structural meaning? Looking at Applicant's figures 2-4, the support has just one perimeter contour, and saying parts of it overlap other parts seems to be meaningless. Is there some structure or step inferred by this?

On lines 6 and 7 of claim 25, the cutting step is "*capable of permitting the production of said first side*". Is the production of the first side a positively recited step here? It seems not to be.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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4. Claims 19-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fazis '273, who shows a method of cutting planiform pieces that could be used as automobile trim.

Fazis shows in figure 2a a first cutting blade having straight sections and a curved apex portion. In figure 2, the second blade (3) and third blade (4) can be seen. Together, the first and second knife each cut part of a straight section of the workpiece. The first and third knife likewise each cut part of a straight section of the workpiece. The knives operate sequentially due to their incline, best seen in figure 1. The apex is formed "simultaneously" with the nearby straight edges because the apex does not exist until the straight edges are completely cut.

Fazi's blades do not make overlapping cuts, but Applicant has not actually claimed this. For example, in claim 19, the 1st blade cuts "*a first straight side on a fraction F*" and the 2nd blade cuts "*at least a portion of fraction F*". No part of "F" is identified that is cut by both blades.

In regards to claim 21, the three blades form a continuous cutting edge.

In regards to claims 22-24 and 28-30, Fazis shows a support 2 that substantially matches the cutting edges of the three upper knives (figure 1, lines 30-35, column 3).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ken Peterson whose telephone number is 571-272-4512. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur, 7:30-5:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan Shoap can be reached on 571-272-4514. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

kp
November 3, 2005


KENNETH E. PETERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER